(c) whether new appointments including that of an advisor were made after 2000; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor together with the details of appointments made, qualifications of the appointees and justification for each appointment in the light of the IWS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Internal Work Study (IWS) had identified 1134 staff members as surplus out of which 870 staff members opted for VRS.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) After an another Internal Work Study of Export Inspection Council and Export Inspection Agencies (EIAs) conducted in 1997-98 and finalised in the year, 2000, and in view of the requirement for technically qualified staff in the context of emerging scenario under WTO regime, Export Inspection Council (EIC) has made direct recruitment of 13 Assistant Director (Technical), 2 Assistant Director (Non-Technical) and 8 Technical Officers. All appointments were done in accordance with the qualifications prescribed in the Recruitment Rules for the posts.

EIC have also requisitioned temporarily the services of two Consultants, one for Information Systems and other for Systems and Corporate Audit from the sister organisations *viz*. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) to make up the required skills and resources lacking in EIC. The Consultant for Systems and Corporate Audit, designated as Adviser, has necessary background in Corporate Audit and Documentation while the Consultant for Information Systems has the required background of having handled computerization in his previous organization.

Credit scheme of NABARD for rural women

*600. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NABARD has introduced some exclusive schemes for rural women to provide easy credit to them for starting their ventures in non-farm products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the status of these schemes in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that it has introduced schemes for providing easier access of credit to women for starting their own ventures. These schemes are:

- Assistance to Rural Women in Non-Farm Development (ARWIND);
- Assistance for Marketing of Non-Farm Products of Rural Women (MAHIMA);
- Development of Women through Area Approach (DEWTA);
- Support to Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks for Setting up of Women Development Cells.

Assistance to women is available under the ARWIND scheme for undertaking various activities like escort services, common facility centres/ common service centres, setting up of mother units and expenses related to collection of products from and input supply to as also monitoring of satellite units organizing women, product design, quality control, margin money requirements, preliminary/pre-operative expenses, etc. Under the MAHIMA scheme, assistance is available for aspects related to marketing like market survey, capacity building, quality control, technology upgradation, design development, branding, labeling, preparation of catalogues, packaging design, publicity including data building and documentation, common marketing facilities, setting up of showrooms, sales outlets, mobile vans, organization/ participation in exhibition and melas, etc. Under both these schemes NABARD provides 100 percent refinance to banks.

DEWTA scheme has been introduced on pilot basis in 4 regional rural banks. The scheme aims to address various needs of women identified by women through their capacity building, networking and convergence of services to have focused implementation and visible impact. NABARD has been supporting setting up of women development cells in RRBs and cooperative banks. Since inception of the scheme in 1994-95, 100 cells have been supported by NABARD.

(c) In so far as the State of Andhra Pradesh, NABARD has sanctioned 4 schemes under ARWIND and MAHIMA covering 220 women involving a financial assistance of Rs.4.11 lakh. The Shri Anantha Gramena Bank has been chosen as one of the banks for implementation of the pilot scheme under DEWTA scheme. About 1000 women are proposed to be covered over a period of three years. NABARD has supported 13 banks (8 RRBs and 5 Cooperative Banks) in Andhra Pradesh for setting up women development cells.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

IB Report on airport security

4228. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Statesman dated 2nd February,2002 captioned "IB report slams lax airport security";

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the major highlights of the IB report; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to tone up the security arrangements in the concerned airports including the Indira Gandhi International Airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. As per the existing system in place for inspection and monitoring of security arrangements at various operational airports, Intelligence Bureau led teams carried out inspection of important airports. No major shortcomings have been noticed. However, the team suggested certain corrective measures which, *inter-alia*, related to the height of perimeter wall, perimeter road/lighting, removal of vegetation in operational area, provision of grating for drains, strict surveillance and access control etc. Corrective measures have been accordingly taken to strengthen security arrangements at these airports including at the Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi. A number of other measures have also been taken to further strengthen security arrangements, which *inter-alia* include:

(i) Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) at all operational airports in a time-bound manner;

(ii) Deployment of Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) at major airports;